CARING FOR THE AGING POPULATION DURING COVID-19

RESOURCES FOR COUNTY LEADERS
AGENDA

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Q & A | Email questions to rmerker@naco.org
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U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging
(Minority)

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Share your stories, photos and videos about what Home and Community Based Services mean to older adults and the direct support professionals and personal care attendants who support them. Send your story to Casey_SeniorSpotlight@aging.senate.gov or share your story, photo or video on Twitter with the hashtag #WhatWeNeed and tag @DemsonAging

Coronavirus Relief for Seniors and People with Disabilities Act (S. 3544) One Pager

Senator Bob Casey (D-PA, Ranking Member) Coronavirus Landing Page
Caring for the Aging Population During COVID-19: Resources for County Leaders

April 9, 2020
Sandy Markwood
Chief Executive Officer
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
Aging Network Dynamics

• Nearly 60 percent of AAAs are administered through a governmental entity, including 25 percent through county governments

• AAAs and their providers are on the front lines serving the population that is at particular medical and economic risk from the COVID-19 pandemic

• Thus far the response has been, “locally executed, state managed, and federally supported” and AAAs are a vital partner in local/state response

• Local, regional and state governments especially critical in ensuring that the Aging Network can support older Americans and caregivers throughout the COVID-19 pandemic
Aging Network Challenges

Service Delivery Challenges
- Program closures and increased social isolation
- Changing service delivery models
- Shortages of essential volunteers and staff
- Increase in service demand from emerging populations
- Ensuring safe service delivery and continued access to supplies (e.g., meals, cleaning supplies)
- Watching for increases in fraud and abuse during health crisis

Administrative Challenges
- Maintaining health and safety of AAA & providers, clients, and staff—especially access to PPE!
- Adapting to remote workforce
- Confusion about the status of the Aging Network workforce (essential? yes; emergency responders?)
- Confusion re: funding flexibilities
- Local and state coordination (aging ↔ health care/public health) vis-à-vis federal support
- Many questions, few easy answers
Aging Network Adaptations

- Implementing innovative/flexible service delivery models
  - Redirecting resources to in-home service delivery
  - Drive-through meal/groceries pick-up
  - Implementing technology to achieve case management/service delivery
  - Identifying alternative sources for volunteers/supplies

- Increased coordination with state/national networks and partners to ensure best practice dissemination and collective trouble shooting
  - Increasing communication at all levels
Examples from the Field

**New York** – County-based AAAs are combating social isolation by distributing up to 1,000 animatronic pets to isolated older adults

"Now I don’t feel like this is the end of the world"

**Indiana** – AAAs partnering with counties to establish hotline to assist older adults in getting access to necessary materials during the crisis
Emergency Funding for the Aging Network

- **Families First Act**
  - $240m for OAA Title III C Nutrition Services
    - $160m for home-delivered meals
    - $80m for congregate programs
  - $10m for OAA Title VI Native American aging program nutrition services

- **CARES Act**
  - $870m for Older Americans Act programs
    - $480m in flexible Title III C1 and C2 nutrition services
    - $200m for Title III B supportive services
    - $20m for Title VI Native American aging program nutrition services
    - $100m for Title III E family caregiver support services
    - $20m for Title VII elder rights protection activities
    - $50m for Aging and Disability Resource Centers
How County Elected Leaders Can Help

- **Connect with your local AAA** (especially if it is not county-based!)
- Help to ensure your local governmental colleagues and leaders **understand the important role of the AAA** in responding to this crisis
- **Designate**, or urge your state leaders to designate, the Aging Network workforce as essential
- **Promote access to personal protective equipment** (PPE) for the Aging Network workforce
- Push to **provide maximum flexibility** for the Aging Network to adapt service delivery models

<n4a letter to NACo>
n4a Resources and Action

- Advocacy to Congress and Administration
- Eldercare Locator: [eldercare.acl.gov](https://eldercare.acl.gov)
- n4a’s COVID-19 Resources for Aging Network Stakeholders
  - Access to AAA webinars/podcast featuring local best practices
  - Highlights federal agency resources and guidance
  - Includes policy updates and outlines n4a’s federal policy priorities for the Aging Network during the COVID-19 crisis
  - Provides tools and resources for local AAAs and providers to use in educating older adults
Davis County Health Department’s Senior Services
An Area Agency on Aging

Kristy Cottrell, MPA, RN
Deputy Director Senior Services

Healthy Choices. Healthy People. Healthy Communities.
• Board of Commissioners (3 member)
  • County Health Department
  • Area Agency on Aging - Senior Services
Working Closely with Community Leaders

- Utah Department of Health
- County Commissioners
- City Leaders
- First Responders
- Governor's Office
Keeping High Risk Populations Informed

Individuals at higher risk of getting very sick from COVID-19

- Individuals with serious chronic conditions:
  - Pre-existing lung condition (COPD, emphysema, cancer, asthma, etc.)
  - Heart disease
  - Diabetes
- Immunocompromised Individuals
- Older adults over the age of 60

Make it a priority!
Talk to your primary care physician or specialist about a plan if you get sick.

PF

Obtain extra necessary medications in case you need to stay home for a prolonged period of time.

Avoid all non-essential travel and stay home as much as possible.

Stay in touch with others by phone or email. You may need to ask for help from friends, family, neighbors, community health workers, etc. if you become sick.

Determine who can care for you if your caregiver gets sick.

AP

Washington virus deaths hit 22, 3 more from nursing home
By MARTHA BELLISLE  March 9, 2020

SEATTLE (AP) — King County public health officials on Monday reported three new deaths from...
Emergency Operations Center

- Department Operations Center
  - Outreach Partnership with Environmental Health
  - Trusted resource and knowledge of the community
    - Providers & Facilities

- County Operations Center
  - Staff for Meal Delivery
  - Donations, Volunteers

COVID-19 PPE Request Form - Davis County

Once your request is submitted it will be prioritized. A staff member of the Health Department will contact you to let you know the status of your request. If the requested supplies are available the County EOC will contact you regarding order fulfillment.
Healthy Choices. Healthy People. Healthy Communities.

**Cases:** 158

**Hospitalizations:** 14

**Deaths:** 2

**Tested:** 3533
Communication & Information Sharing

- The Davis County Website: [http://www.daviscountyutah.gov/health/aging-and-adult-services](http://www.daviscountyutah.gov/health/aging-and-adult-services)

- Social Media Platforms 🌐 [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com)  🦅 [Twitter](https://twitter.com)  📸 [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com)  🎨 [Pinterest](https://www.pinterest.com)

- A special Facebook page put into effect to keep older residents in contact with others (Davis County Senior Centers)

- Senior Services Newsletters
  1. Activity Center Newsletters
  2. Caregiver Newsletter
  3. Senior Corp (RSVP) Newsletter

- Flyers delivered electronically, by mail, & with MOW deliveries
Services Currently Provided From Centers

Centers also have shelf stable meals on hand from a local food pantry.

If you are 60 & over and in need of a lunch?

Davis County Senior Centers currently provide the following options:

- Grab-and-go meals
- Home delivered meals (Meals on Wheels)
- Grocery delivery (You order & pay, we can pick up & deliver)

To sign up call (801) 525-5050, option 5.
What Special Precautions We Are Taking - Spanish/English

**DAVIS COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES & MEALS ON WHEELS**

**DAVIS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS ARE HELPING TO STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19!**

- Meals will now be bagged & left at the door for your safety & yours.
- All staff & volunteers are being screened before reporting to work.
- For your safety and yours, our staff is practicing social distancing by staying 6 feet apart from others.
- Until further notice, all staff is practicing no handshake or physical contact policy.
- All staff & volunteers are cleaning and sanitizing hands between all client deliveries.
- Remember social distancing does not mean social isolation. Practice other forms of socialization like, calling a friend, or using video chat, to stay in touch.
- Continue doing the things you love like, yard work and gardening, puzzles, crosswords, arts & crafts.

**MEALS WILL NOW BE BAGGED & LEFT AT THE DOOR FOR YOUR SAFETY & YOURS.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL YOUR CENTER.**
- SOUTH DAVIS - 801-451-1660
- CENTRAL DAVIS - 801-444-2390
- NORTH DAVIS - 801-525-5880

daviscountyutah.gov/coronavirus

coronavirus.utah.gov

cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019

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**DAVIS COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES & MEALS ON WHEELS**

**¡NUESTROS EMPLEADOS Y VOLUNTARIOS ESTÁN HACIENDO SU PARTE PARA PREVENIR LA PROPAGACIÓN DEL COVID-19!**

- La comida ahora se dejará embolizada y en la puerta para la seguridad nuestra y de usted.
- Todos nuestros empleados y voluntarios están recibiendo una revisión de salud, antes de reportar al trabajo.
- Nuestros empleados y voluntarios están practicando el distanciamiento social, manteniéndose 6 pies de distancia de otros.
- Hasta nuevo aviso, todo empleado y voluntario practicara una política de no contacto físico (no dar la mano).
- Recordar que el distanciarse socialmente no significa aislarlo socialmente.
- Practicar otras formas de socialización como, el llamar amigos o familia por teléfono, usar video chat, para quedarse en contacto.
- Continuar haciendo las cosas que le gusta hacer como, trabajar en el jardín, rompe cabezas, crucigramas, y manualidades.

**LA COMIDA AHORA SE DEJARÁ EMBOLSADA Y EN LA PUERTA PARA LA SEGURIDAD NUESTRA Y DE USTED.**

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Next Steps

- Bridge the gap between need for services and fear of someone in the home
- Implementing more digital engagement with caregivers and older adults
- Supporting staff and encouraging self-care
Contact

Kristy Cottrell MPA RN
Deputy Director/Senior Services
kcottrell@co.davis.ut.us
801-525-5163
Q & A

• Email questions to Rachel Merker, Associate Legislative Director of Human Services and Education, National Association of Counties (NACo): rmerker@naco.org
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Administration for Community Living: COVID-19 Landing Page
- National Association of Counties COVID-19 Resources
  - Phone Line Reduces Senior Loneliness
  - Counties Move to Protect the Elderly
- National Association of Area Agencies on Aging COVID-19 Resources
  - Customizable Flyers from n4a